



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of:)
Kahle, et al.)
Serial No. 10/666,579)
Filed: September 17, 2003)
For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT ACCESS)
DEVICE)

Attorney's Docket: A-2845-AL

Customer Window, Mail Stop DD
US Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of PTO Form SB/08a which lists information which may be relevant to the prosecution of the above-captioned application. It is requested that this information be considered by the Office.

This Statement is being submitted under the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). The information is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), it is understood that filing of the Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information submitted is material to patentability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any over-payment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-2215.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth K. Vu
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 46,323

Date: January 27, 2004

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Date of Deposit: January 28, 2004

I hereby certify that the following documents as identified below are being deposited with Federal Express Service on the date indicated above in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, 2011 South Clark Place, Customer Window, Mail Stop DD, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington, VA 22202

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form SB/08a; and
3. Return-receipt postcard.

Each of the above-identified documents is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Johnson

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/666,579
		Filing Date	September 17, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Kahle
		Art Unit	3739
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	A-2845-AL	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,045,535	04/04/2000	Ben Nun	
		US- 5,514,133	05/07/1996	Golub	
		US- 5,471,298	04/21/1998	MacLeod	
		US- 5,389,080	02/14/1995	Yoon	
		US- 4,338,937	07/13/1982	Lerman	
		US- 6,482,181	11/19/2002	Racenet	
		US- 2002/01564322	10/24/2002	Racenet	
		US- 5,496,280	03/05/1996	Vandenbroek	
		US- 5,709,664	01/20/1998	vandenbroek	
		US- 5,492,304	02/20/1996	Smith	
		US- 5,603,702	02/18/1997	Smith	
		US- 5,895,377	04/20/1999	Smith	
		US- 5,429,609	07/04/1995	Yoon	
		US- 5,989,233	11/23/1999	Yoon	
		US- 5,460,616	10/24/1995	Weinsteien	
		US- 5,782,817	07/21/1998	Franzel	
		US- 6,010,494	01/04/2000	Schafer	
		US- 5,350,364	09/27/1994	Stephens	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 2

of 2

Complete if Known

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		US- 5,389,081	02/14/1995	Castro	
		US- 5,628,732	05/13/1997	Antoon Jr.	
		US- 5,993,471	11/30/1999	Riza	
		US- 5,720,730	02/24/1998	Blake, III	
		US- 5,531,758	07/02/1996	Uschold	
		US- 5,476,475	12/19/1995	Gadberry	
		US- 5,380,288	01/10/1995	Hart	
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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